

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8685

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3259

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, RQ, IN

SUBJ: PUERTO RICO AND THE COMMITTEE OF 24 (C-24); INDIAN VIEWS

1. MISOFF DISCUSSED PUERTO RICO AND THE COMMITTEE OF 24 WITH INDIA C-24 REP BUDHIRAJA ON AUGUST 13. BUDHIRAJA WAS ALREADY AWARE OF HOW STRONGLY THE USG FEELS ABOUT PUERTO RICO. BUDHIRAJA EMPHASIZED THAT THE RESULTS OF THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE AND THE NATURE OF THE RESOLUTION ON PUERTO RICO INTRODUCED IN THE C-24 WILL BE VERY IMPORTANT IN DETERMINING HOW THIS YEAR'S CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICO UNFOLDS.

2. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD BE INCLINED TO RECOMMEND TO THE MFA THAT INDIA SUPPORT A MOTION FOR POSTPONMENT, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT HE HAS NO INSTRUCTIONS AS YET. BUDHIRAJA POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT POSTPONEMENT WOULD ONLY BE A TEMPORARY SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM AND SUGGESTED THAT A LONG-TERM SOLUTION BE SOUGHT. SPEAKING PERSONALLY HE SUGGESTED THAT IF A C-24 VISITING MISSION COULD OBSERVE THE GENERAL ELECTIONS IN PUERTO RICO THAT THAT MIGHT SERVE TO DEFUSE THE ISSUE IN THE C-24. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THIS WOULD UNDERMINE THE US POSITION ON UN LACK OF COMPETENCE TO CONSIDER PUERTO RICO BUT SAID WHAT IS NEEDED IS A "POLITICAL"

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RATHER THAN STRICTLY LEGALISTIC APPROACH TO THE

PROBLEM.

3. HE QUERIED MISOFF ABOUT THE ALLEGATION THAT SON OF THE PUERTO RICAN SOCIALIST PARTY (PSP) SECRETARY GENERAL HAD BEEN ASSASSINATED AND EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THIS ISSUE WOULD BE RAISED IN THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE B ONE OF THE PUERTO RICAN SPOKESMEN. BUDHIRAJA EXPRESSED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN LEARNING THAT BOTH THE PSP AND PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE PARTY ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE GENERAL ELECTIONS IN PUERTO RICO AND SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF SOMEONE COULD DRAW ATTENTION TO THIS DURING THE C-24 CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICO.
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